

Appendix G

**Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality
Air Quality Division Letter**



Dave Freudenthal, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality

To protect, conserve and enhance the quality of Wyoming's environment for the benefit of current and future generations.



John Corra, Director

October 14, 2004

Ms. Prill Mecham
Pinedale Field Manager
PO Box 768
Pinedale, WY 82941



Dear Ms. Mecham,

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (WDEQ) has taken a preliminary look at the nitrogen oxide emissions that would be generated from the six drill rigs that Questar would utilize under their Winter Drilling proposal. Based on this evaluation, the WDEQ believes the Questar Winter Drilling Proposal would not create any additional impacts from the current level of nitrogen oxide emissions in the Pinedale Anticline area. WDEQ also believes that the environmental benefits to be gained through the implementation of the Questar proposals are significant, and will lead to overall air quality improvement.

We also understand that new information on nitrogen oxides emissions from oil and gas operations are available. This new information suggests that the analysis level included in The Record of Decision for the Pinedale Anticline Oil and Gas Exploration and Development Project has been exceeded.

The WDEQ recommends that BLM consider addressing this potential exceedance of the analysis level with the following:

- BLM will recommend that all drill rigs used in the greater Pinedale Anticline-Jonah area be fitted with Tier II diesel engine technology by the earliest date these engines become available.
- BLM to reinstate the "Letter of Agreement for Tracking Nitrogen Oxide Emissions" between BLM and WDEQ with specific emphasis on the Jonah/Pinedale area.
- BLM in coordination with WDEQ will evaluate technology and estimate emissions from drill rigs in the Pinedale Anticline area based on representative actual drilling scenarios, thus enabling accurate estimates of actual emissions under current and proposed drilling scenarios.
- BLM will consider that compressing drilling activities into six months rather than annually may more negatively impact air quality.

G-1

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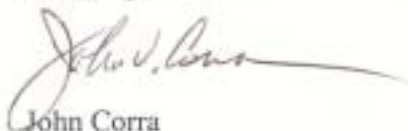
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- BLM will weigh the environmental benefits from the Questar proposal (reduced footprint, condensate pipeline, green completions) in reducing NOx, PM and VOCs.
- BLM will estimate air quality impacts within the Pinedale field office area, as well as throughout the State of Wyoming, with the State of the Atmosphere Dispersion modeling effort by 2006. This effort will be conducted in full partnership with WDEQ.
- BLM and WDEQ will continue to cooperate on support and enhancement of air quality monitoring in the Pinedale field office area, which will allow an assessment of, and response to, potential impacts as development continues.

Sincerely,



John Corra
Director
Department of Environmental Quality

Cc: Governor's Planning Office
Don Simpson, BLM
Paul Matheny, Questar
Mike Golas, Questar
Dan Olson, DEQ Air Quality

